Map for armed force personnels

298. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Prime Minister's Rs. 17,000 crore Married Accommodation Project (MAP) for armed force personnels;

(b) whether it is running behind schedule;

(c) the number of dwellings envisaged under this project; and

(d) the tentative period for the construction and completion of dwellings under this project?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Construction of 1,98,881 dwelling units of married accommodation, for construction in four phases at an estimated cost of Rs. 17,358 crores is proposed. Phase-I of the work covering 61,658 dwelling units has been approved and the work has been assigned to CPWD, DRDO, three PSUs viz. NBCC, RITES and IRCON AND DG MAP, an organisation created out of the establishment of E-in-C's Branch/MES.

(b) No, sir.

(c) Construction of 1,98,881 dwelling units is envisaged.

(d) The proposed construction is likely to be completed by 2008-2009.

Applicability of annual recruitment plan on service personnel

299. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHERJEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that instructions issued by Department of Personnel and Training (DOP&T) for setting up of Screening Committees for preparing Annual Recruitment Plan are not applicable to service personnel;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

.(c) the reasons/justification for application of the above instructions on civilian Stenographers in AFHQ authorised for attachment with such Service Officers?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The provisions of Department of Personnel and Training Office Memorandum No. 2/8/2001-PIC, dated 16.5.2001 are applicable to all direct recruitment posts of the Central Government Ministries/ Departments Organisations including Ministry of Railways, Department of Posts, Department of Telecom, Autonomous bodies—wholly or partly financed by the Government, statutory corporation/bodies, civilians in defence and non-combatised posts in para military Forces. The combatised posts are essentially exempted on grounds of safety and security considerations.

MIG-21 crash in Barmer, Rajasthan

300. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that another MiG-21 fighter aircraft crashed in Barmer district of Rajasthan on 4th June, 2003 killing the pilot;

(b) what was the total strength of MiG fighter aircrafts as on 1st January, 2000 and how many of them have met with accidents since then;

(c) what has been the main cause of these accidents and the areas wherein these accidents have taken place; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent accidents?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total strength of MiG fighter aircraft can not be divulged in the interest of national security.

52 MiG fighter aircraft have met with Category-I accidents since 1st January 2000 upto 17th July 2003.

(c) The details are enclosed as Statement. (See below)

(d) A continuous and multi-faceted effort is always afoot in Indian Air Force to enhance and upgrade flight safety, measures to enhance the quality of training to improve the skill levels, ability to exercise sound judgement and situational awareness of pilots are being pursued.